Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Computing & Mathematical Sciences

Computer Science
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE / BACHELOR OF COMPUTING AND MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES (BSc)/(BCMS) COMPUTER SCIENCE

A Computer Science qualification can give you entry to a career in entertainment, industry, business, education and government.

Computer Science provides the knowledge and the practical skills to support development in all these areas. Ongoing progress in computer technology means that there is a steady need for more qualified computer professionals.

Computer scientists look at ways to systematically describe and transform information – some focus on ways to improve human-computer interaction, some on implementing computations, others on programming languages and yet others on theory. Computer Science majors learn about building software systems and how people and computers interact.

As a Computer Science student, you’ll learn how to create new software, how to ensure it works well, does what it is supposed to, and how to make it easy for people to use.

Specialisations

- Applied Computing
- Artificial Intelligence
- Computer Technology
- Data Mining
- Games and Multimedia
- Information Systems
- Internet Applications
- Networks
- Software Development

Computer Science at Waikato

Computer Science is taught at Waikato in three- and four-year degrees: the three-year BSc and the four-year BCMS (New Zealand’s only four-year Computer Science degree). Our degrees are highly practical: you’ll begin working in our excellent computing labs as soon as your first semester begins.

We offer specialisations with the BSc and the BCMS, and a more generalist Computer Science major. These specialisations will equip you with the skills you need to succeed in careers in specific areas of the IT industry. Specialisations are regularly updated to meet changing opportunities.

Because the first three years of the BCMS are identical to the BSc, you can choose when you graduate. You have the option to graduate after three years with a BSc in Computer Science, or stay on for an extra year and complete your BCMS. That extra year gives you the chance to drill more deeply into your specialist area, and to undertake an honours research project in one-to-one collaboration with a research/teaching Computer Science staff member.

Background Required

Our first-year papers do not require any previous experience with programming, although prior familiarity with computers is helpful. Since you will study Intro to Algebra and Intro to Statistics, you will need a reasonable mathematics result at NCEA Level 3 (or its equivalent).